

The Masonic Philatelist

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK



Vol VI No. 11 February 1950



• Meetings •

PROOF AND ESSAY NIGHT

A real treat is in store for the evening of February 24th when the New York Chapter of the Essay-Proof Society will be the guests of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York at the Collectors Club, beginning at 8 o'clock. Several of the outstanding members of the Essay-Proof Society in New York have been selected to exhibit a diversified and interesting lot of material that is certain to be "out of this world". Our own brother, Clarence W. Brazer, who is also Editor of The Essay Proof Journal, is coordinating the arrangements and you may be certain that a worthwhile program will be the result. There is no doubt that there will be exhibited material that will be of interest to everyone, regardless of your specialty. Many of the members are turning out early in order to "bat the breeze" and swap a few stamps or anecdotes; the more the merrier. Doors open at 7 P.M.

MASONRY AND PHILATELY

On Friday evening, March 3rd, Bro. Sam Brooks will present Masonic Philately. It is probably not necessary to elaborate any further because everyone knows that Sam is unquestionably one of the leading authorities on this subject. In addition to being the editor of this publication, Bro. Brooks is author of that interesting and valuable work, "Masonic Philately". While this book covers the stories of Masons on stamps, there are many other fields of study for the Masonic philatelist. Come out and learn how this can be done without the expenditure of a large sum of money. In addition, there are many other questions, some of which were raised at a recent meeting that might develop answers that would be basis for a unique collection. Use ingenuity and patience as your working tools. Regular meeting on March 3rd starts at the usual time - 8 P.M. but come early (7 P.M.) for fellowship and stamp talk.

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THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

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EDITOR
Sam Brooks, 985 Anderson Ave.,
New York 52, N. Y.

Washington Interested in Post—Washington took an active interest in the post office, especially in the Winter of 1787-88, when excitement was running high over the possible rejection or adoption of the new Constitution. It was charged that Postmaster General Hazard was holding back newspaper deliveries.

The opponents of the Constitution blamed the Federalist postal system for their defeat, alleging suppression of information had damaged their cause. Hazard denied interfering with the news, offering substantial evidence to sustain his claim to impartiality.

Hazard's changing of some coach routes to horse routes was objected

to by General Washington, but Hazard declared he was acting for the best interests of the service in taking what was rated a backward step showing that costs were thereby reduced and citing the bad roads as a cause for the change in the system.

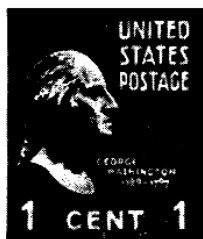
"George Washington, from the time he was a British officer of twenty-five until his later years of retirement at Mt. Vernon, had much to write about the Posts." — Story, Washington and the Posts, Joseph Carson, Collectors Club Philatelist, Oct. 1947.

(from *The American Stamp Collectors Dictionary*, by Harry M. Konwiser.)



Jan Sibelius, the great composer of the tone poem, "Finlandia," and other works, received his degrees in Masonry in Suomi Lodge, No. 1, Helsinki, Finland. There he is still writing music. He had written incidental music for the first three degrees, and he is still the organist for the Grand Lodge of Finland.

GEORGE WASHINGTON



The one-cent value of the issue of 1938. This series was arranged to show the order of the Presidents and their tenure of office. The portrait is from a photograph of a bust by Houdon.

Born, February 22, 1732, Wakefield, Va.
Died, December 14, 1799, Mt. Vernon, Va.

Raised, August 4, 1753 at Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, Virginia.

Made an Honorary member of Alexandria Lodge No. 39, on June 24, 1784. When this Lodge changed from Pennsylvania Jurisdiction to that of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, the number was changed to 22, and on April 28, 1788 Washington was made Charter Master. Re-elected December 20, 1788 and Master of the Lodge when Inaugurated President. March 6, 1789, elected Honorary Member of Holland Lodge No. 8, New York City. At his Inauguration on April 30, 1789, he took the Oath of Office on the Bible of St. Johns Lodge No. 1, of which General Jacob Morton was Worshipful Master. Morton was later Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, as was General Morgan Lewis, Washington's Personal Escort. Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, administered the Oath. September 18, 1793, Washington participated in elaborate Masonic Ceremonies by laying the Cornerstone of the Capital of the United States, at Washington, D. C.

(from Masonic Philately, by Sam Brooks)

GEO. WASHINGTON'S VISIT TO BARBADOS-1751-52

A short period in the life of our first President, that has been given very little prominence in our historical writings, is his visit to the island of Barbados, B.W.I. His trip to this island in the company of his invalid brother, Major Lawrence Washington, is recorded in a daily journal, which he kept to correspond to a log-book. This journal alone provides a keen insight as to the character possessed by our distinguished founder, who at 18 provided an accurate and detailed account of the trip at sea, including instrumental observations and information of Barbados-climate, soil, population, government etc. Brother Lawrence, who was fourteen years older, had already held a captain's rank in the British Army when he served in the Carthagera expedition-1740-42, under Admiral Vernon, in whose honor the estate at Mt. Vernon is named.

George Washington left on Sept. 28, 1751 for Barbados, which was recognized by many planters of Virginia as a famous health resort, landing at Bridgetown Nov. 3, 1751.

Nov. 4th, an entry in his diary shows an invitation to breakfast by Major Clarke, which Washington reluctantly accepted, due to the presence of smallpox in the family. His coming down with this disease two weeks later left him with a few scars on his face.

Thursday Nov. 8th, his diary records the renting of a house overlooking Carlisle Bay providing an excellent view of the ships coming in and out.

A series of social visits followed for the next few days, having dinner at Fort Needham, also attended a play--Tragedy of George Barnwell.

On Saturday Nov. 17, he came down with smallpox which confined him until Dec. 12th. The following ten days he continued his various visits and social calls, all the events are entered in his diary. On Sunday Dec. 22nd he set sail on the Industry under Capt. John Saunders for Virginia.

During the six weeks sojourn in Barbados his brother showed little improvement and it was agreed that Lawrence would go on to Bermuda. If he improved in health George was to return with Lawrence's wife to Bermuda. The Bermudian climate held little for Lawrence, for he returned to Mt. Vernon knowing that death was near, for he died at Mt. Vernon July 26, 1752.

The above facts are from "The Daily Journal of Major George Washington"
Published by Joel Munsell, Albany, N.Y., 1892

Irwin M. Yarry

Brother William Dahel of San Francisco, is an ardent pre-cancel collector. He is always on the look-out for new items to add to his extensive collection. At the Missouri State Fair he showed dated pre-cancels of the 1898-1902 issues and won the Grand Prize as well as the First Prize in the pre-cancel section. Very nice, we say.

Brother Morris Strauss asks that all members intending to exhibit a Topical collection on April 7th, should get in touch with him so that a proper programme may be arranged. He also states that the Master of Philately Degree will be worked on May 26th. All members who have not received this Degree should write him at once. This notice is especially for out-of-town members who may arrange to be in New York that day. Write Morris Strauss, 224 Riverside Drive, New York, 25, N.Y.

In a note to HMK, Mr. Prescott H. Thorpe, the well-known philatelic writer, writes: "Hey! Your friend Henneman has a nice idea in that Musical Stamp Album. It deserves considerable write-up in the philatelic press as it is the finest possible promotion for stamp collecting. Get Parent Teachers interested. Here is a definite "project" that can be used in a class room. They want such."

At our meeting on March 3rd, members of the Club will display their collections of Masonic Philately. As conductor of that Meeting, your Editor welcomes all members to show what they may have in this group. The subject is becoming more interesting to a large number of collectors. Plan to attend and bring with you anything of Masonic significance.

Unveiling On Feb. 22

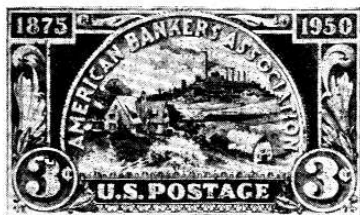
At the Masonic National Memorial Building in Alexandria, Va., this huge, 14,000 pound statue of the Father of our Country will be unveiled in the presence of a distinguished company of Masons.

Some idea of the size of this memorial can be had by a glance at this reproduction, at the left of which, standing on a ladder, is the famous sculptor, Bro. Bryant Baker, of New York City.



MASON FIRST HEAD OF BANKERS ASSOCIATION

The following account appears on the latest in my series of "Masonic" cachets:



"When the American Bankers Association was organized in 1875 "to promote the general welfare and usefulness of banks," the honor of being its first president went to a Mason. Charles B. Hall, cashier of the Boston National

Bank who had become a member of Revere Lodge of Boston in 1858, was named to head the association. His satisfactory services in the formative stages of the A.B.A. resulted in two re-elections. He asked to be relieved of a fourth term. He died on May 8, 1883. The 75th anniversary of the A.B.A. was honored with the issuance of a 3¢ postage stamp on Jan. 3, 1950. The association today represents 99 per cent of the banking resources of the U.S. -- John A. Mirt, Chicago."

Our treasurer reports receiving dues from Brother Forest A. Black of Fitchburg, Mass. in a First Flight cacheted envelope on Fitchburg AM-79. Which reminds him that some of our non-resident Members are still unpaid on the books. Have YOU paid your dues?

Brother H.L.DeVall, who operates the Alpha Beta Book Store in New Brunswick, N.J., was made a Life Member in Guiding Star Lodge on the occasion of his 35th year of membership. We hope he will acquire his 50th year card. If you are a book buyer get on the DeVall mailing list by writig him at 52 Woodbridge Ave., New Brunswick, N.J.

The Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, at its September 6, 1904, meeting, with 13 members present, decided to hold its meetings in a room at the Masonic Temple. This room, suitable for meetings was also to contain the Club Library. HMK

Gordon Smith, one of the founders of the Stanley Gibbons,LTD. of England, was an active member of the Craft. He was Initiated in Tuscan Lodge, England, in 1879. He served as Past Master in 1889 and also was Secretary. His activities included membership in several Lodges and in 1897 was Grand Sword Bearer of England. HMK

The following Resolution was adopted by the Board of Governors of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York:
The Officers and Board of Governors of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York offer their services, free of any charge, to any relative of a deceased Member , advising them as to the most advantageous method of disposing of any philatelic property, if requested to do so. There is absolutely no obligation. Application should be made to any Officer or Governor.

Brothers Herman Herst, Jr. and Irwin M.Yarry have been invited to exhibit for the Masonic Stamp Club, at the Inter American Philatelic Exhibition, Port au Prince, Haiti.

Brother Charles A.Lott who resided at Niagara Falls, has removed to Buffalo. He may be addressed at Ramapo Ajax Division American Brake Shoe Co. 280 Vulcan St., Buffalo,7, N.Y. Have'nt seen you for a long time, Charlie, How're things?

Brother C.H.Maker of Dorchester, Mass. reports a precancel reading "BOAZ ALA." The specimen now reposes in the Editor's Masonic collection. For which we thank Brother Maker.



SPECIAL DELIVERY

To:

Ellen and Carl Pihl
77 Amherst Road,
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Net Weight $7\frac{1}{2}$ Lbs.

Carl Pihl sent me the copy for our meeting notices with the following note:

"the above seems to have turned into a lecture, change it to conform with your plans. I am in a fog anyway. My wife presented me with a son at 2 A.M. on Saturday, so you know what I did after leaving the meeting".

All we can add- is- that mother and son are doing nicely and the 'old man' is going to recover. On behalf of all the members of the Club, and of your many friends, Carl, we wish for you and your family, Good Health and Happiness for many, many years to come. God bless you all.

With this issue we bring to a close six years of publication of THE MASONIC PHILATELIST. It has been a pleasant task, but could not have been possible without the active assistance of many of you. It is necessary that I publicly thank Harry M. Konwiser, Irwin M. Yarry, Carl H. Pihl, Morris Strauss, Harry O. Henneman, John Mirt of Chicago, and our good friend Mr. Sylvester Colby, for their constant aid and encouragement. Someday soon, perhaps, another member may take over the job. I can only ask that he receive the same co-operation that has been mine.